

Languages Spoken in Crawley

Crawley is a very diverse borough: there are at least 90 different languages spoken by pupils in Crawley schools, for example. There is no definitive source of data about the languages spoken in Crawley, or even of the ethnicity or country of birth of residents and there will not be until the Census 2011, which will include a question on languages spoken. The following is therefore an *estimation* of the highest frequency languages spoken, based on a number of sources of data: Census 2001, ONS Ethnicity Estimates, CACI Country of Birth data, Workers Registration Scheme data, Electoral Registration data and the annual census of schools.

Most common first language, other than English

No	Language	Comments
1	Urdu	Spoken by all Pakistanies, Afghanies, Pashtuns, some Punjabi and Gujrati Indians, some Bangladeshis and Malawians.
2	Punjabi	Spoken by Pakistani Punjabies, Indian-Sikh Punjabies.
3	Gujrati	Spoken by Indian Gujraties.
4	Portuguese	Spoken by Portuguese (and other nationalities, but not highly represented in Crawley).
5	Tamil/Sinhala	Spoken by Sri Lankans. The two main languages of Sri Lanka are Tamil and Sinhala; the former of these featured most prominently in the school census.
6	French	Spoken by French and Maritian/Chagassian. There are a number of Chagossian people living in the town, who speak French, Caribbean Creole French or Mauritian Seychelles Creole. The size of this population is unknown, but these languages feature significantly in the school census.
7	Polish	Spoken by Polish.
8	Arabic	Spoken by Arab communities including North African Arab Communities.
9	Shona	Spoken by Zimbabwean community, but Swahili and Ndebele also spoken.
10	Italian	Spoken by Italian.

People seeking to communicate with Crawley residents should, however, recognise that, as mentioned above, there is an enormous variety of languages spoken, and therefore careful consideration needs to be given to communicating with all residents, not just those who speak the most popular languages.